

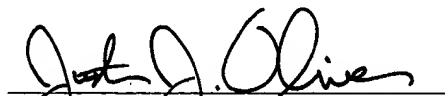
REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 9 and 11-22 are now pending in this application, with Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 9, 11, 12 and 20-22 being independent. By this Amendment, Applicant has canceled Claims 3, 6, 7 and 10, and amended Claims 13, 18 and 19.

Applicant submits that this application is allowable for the reasons set forth in the Amendment filed August 8, 2002, and discussed in the personal interview on September 12, 2002. Applicant requests favorable reconsideration of this application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin J. Oliver", is written over a horizontal line.

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**VERSIONS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW
CHANGES MADE TO THE CLAIMS**

13. (Amended) An optical system, comprising:

a diffractive optical element according to one of claims [1 to 7 and 9 to 12]

1, 2, 4, 5, 9, 11 and 12; and

a lens system.

18. (Amended) An optical system, comprising: a diffractive optical element

according to any one of claims [2-7, 9, and 10] 2, 4, 5 and 9; and

a lens system,

wherein each of said pair of diffractive gratings comprises a flat surface, and

a length a of said flat surface in a direction of grating arrangement of each diffractive grating is $0.5 \mu\text{m} < a < 2 \mu\text{m}$.

19. (Amended) An optical system, comprising:

a diffractive optical element according to any one of claims [2-7, 9, and 10]

2, 4, 5 and 9; and

a lens system,

wherein each of said pair of diffractive gratings comprises a curved surface,
and a radius of curvature r of said curved surface on a cross sectional plane including a
direction of grating arrangement of each diffractive grating is $0.5\text{ }\mu\text{m} < r < 2\text{ }\mu\text{m}$.

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